748

LEVEL ONE

FEBRUARY 24, 1959

THE MENNONITE

OTHER FOUNDATION CAN NO MAN LAY THAN THAT IS LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST

hrist entering Jerusalem" by Tintoretto

To Thee, before Thy passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.

CONFERENCE SUNDAY, MARCH 8

in this issue

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Photo by Three Lions

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of things to come

Feb. 22-Mar. 1—Brotherhood Week
March 8—Conference Sunday
March 17—West. Dist. Women's Meeting
March 22—Palm Sunday
March 29—Easter
April 23-26—Central Dist. Conference, Goshen, Ind.
April 30-May 3—Eastern Dist. Conf., Schwenksville, Pa.
May 7—Ascension Day
May 10—Festival of the Christian Home
May 17—Pentecost
May 20—Mennonite Biblical Seminary alumni meeting.
May 22—Baccalaureate, Mennonite Biblical Seminary
May 23—Commencement, Mennonite Biblical Seminary
June 10-14—Pacific District Conference, Barlow, Oregon
June 18-21—Northern Dist. Conf., Salem-Zion Church (North), Freeman, S. D.
Aug. 5-12—Ministers' and Church Workers' Retreat, Camp Friedenswald, Mich.
Aug. 12-20—General Conference, Bluffton, Ohio
Oct. 24-27—West. Dist. Conference

THE MENNONITE

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VOLUME 74 **NUMBER 8**

editorials

CONTRASTS AT THE CROSS: 2. CRUELTY VERSUS GENTLENESS What cruelty breaks forth at the cross! The mob is mocking Jesus and crying out for His death. His kindness and helpfulness to all in need seems forgotten as the crowd is caught up in a frenzy of cruelty toward a lone individual.

The cruel Jewish leaders were bent on destroying the life that was an open rebuke to their selfishness and greed. How crude and cruel their method of trying to silence the One who was fearless in rebuking wrong wherever it was found.

The hardened Roman soldiers were doing what they were ordered to do. To them it was a matter of grim routine. Their calloused natures could inflict the most horrible cruelty, perhaps without a qualm.

But we see more than cruelty around the cross; we see sublime gentleness. Christ's hands, lacerated with sharp nails, had been raised in blessings upon the people. His feet, so cruelly pierced with spikes, had humbly walked where there was need.

Even now His gentle voice, that had spoken so lovingly of the goodness of God, speaks kindly to His mother. His earnest entreaty to His friend John to care for His mother would long be cherished. His kindness toward His enemies seemed impossible. His tender words to the thief will never be forgotten.

The same two forces we see at the cross are still at work in the world today. Cruelty seems like an unresistible monster as it grinds its victims to death. But gentleness has God on its side and is by far the stronger of the two.

OBSERVING CONFERENCE SUNDAY In the pages of this issue you will find interesting and helpful suggestions to make Conference Sunday (March 8) a time when the minds and hearts and resources of our people are united in the work of the Kingdom.

Conference Sunday affords an opportunity to unite our minds around the great work that is being carried on through the various boards and departments of the entire church. Being properly informed is of great importance—informed on what are the needs of the world, what are the resources of the church in meeting such needs, what is already being done, and what is being planned. To be properly informed should kindle interest and enthusiasm for further work.

Conference Sunday can unite our hearts in a bond of Christian love that compels us to move forward in His service. An awareness of need and the opportunities before us should unite our hearts in the spirit of our Lord, who went about doing good.

Conference Sunday can help us unite our resources, both spiritual and material, for the great tasks about us. With everyone helping in the work of the Kingdom, much can be accomplished.

May every church in our Conference feel anew the responsibilities and opportunities that confront us, and in the spirit of prayer and the unity of mind and heart and resources may we prove ourselves faithful to Him who has never broken faith with us.

A statement of position to the United States House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services concerning H. R. 2260, a bill to extend the induction authority of the universal military training and service act, and for other purposes

Better Than Military Conscription

Presented to this committee at the public hearing January 30, 1959, Washington, D. C., on behalf of the Mennonite Central Committee, Akron, Pennsylvania:

I AM Esko Loewen, pastor of the Johannestal Mennonite Church at Hillsboro, Kansas. I appear as representative of the Mennonite Central Committee, speaking for the Mennonite and affiliated churches of the United States. We have requested this opportunity in order to express to you our deep conviction that the existing legislation authorizing conscription for military service should be terminated.

In submitting this statement today I continue the witness of others, my co-religionists, who in past years have testified before this Committee. From the days of the Reformation 439 years ago my people have sacrificed their homes, their material resources and, even, their lives in a steadfast witness against militarism and violence. They have persistently sought other means whereby conflict and force could be met constructively by love and reconciling suffering. Their testimony has been prompted by the call and gospel of Jesus Christ.

Beginning in 1683 many of my people found here the liberty which they had sought in vain in other lands. In their behalf I want to express our gratitude to this Committee and to Congress for their recognition of religious freedom and their desire to provide adequately for those who because of religious training and belief cannot take up arms. We assume that, if conscription is continued, the present provision for conscientious objectors will not be abridged.

While grateful for this provision I come before this Committee with a grave concern and a heavy heart. For I see in the continuation of this present legislation the gradual acceptance within the life of my country of a principle—conscription and militarism — which historically has been disastrous to every great nation that has followed this course. Particularly in this age of world-wide change, when peoples of the world seek leadership and nations of the world look for a guiding light, to see my own country's course dictated by fear, following the half-truth of peace by power, gives cause for grave concern.

Our Lord said, "They that take the sword shall perish with the sword." This truth remains a vivid judgment. Is it not time that this nation give heed to this and launch forth in a bold turn to new ways and means of using her resources?

Our church's world-wide program of relief and service, motivated by compassion for those in need, has brought us to find hosts of people who long for new and creative leadership, a leadership which would move them and us away from militarism and war. Their picture of the United States and its gigantic power structure causes them to question the motives of our nation. They abhor Communism, but they also seriously question our good will.

I believe the assumptions underlying the proposed legislation are false for the following reasons:

- Conscription itself contributes to the corrosion of those liberties which our nation desires to preserve.
- Our seeking security in military strength engenders mistrust and fear among those whom we would win and preserve as friends.

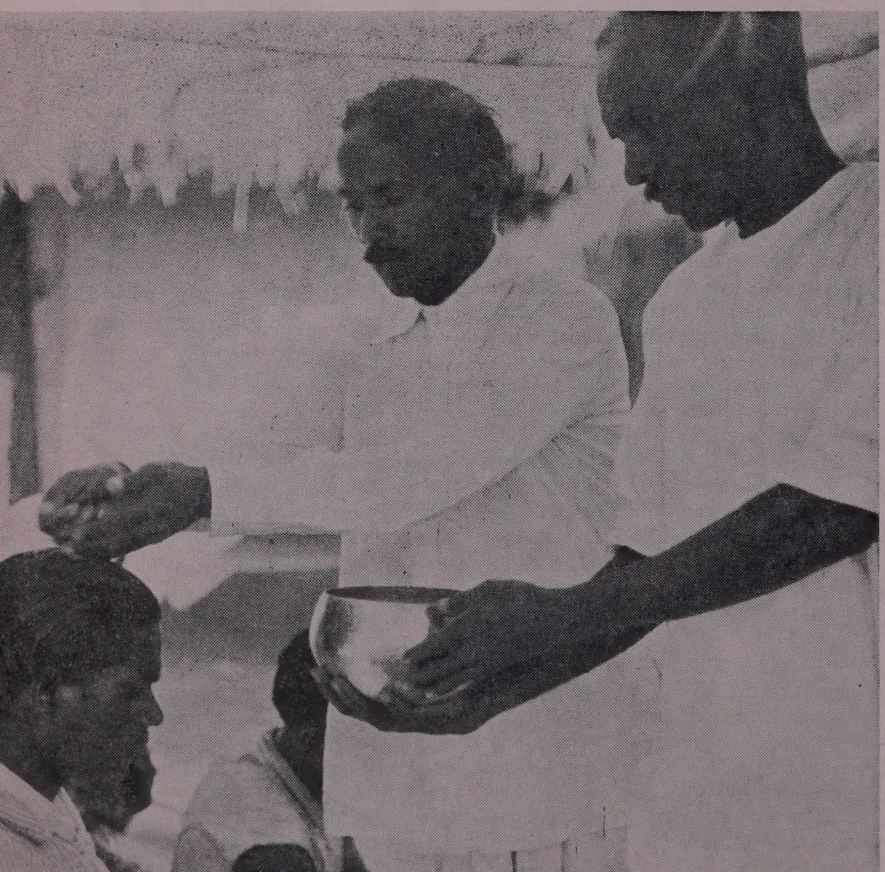
We propose instead that some of the vast human and material resources now devoted to an elusive military security be turned into constructive projects of service for the benefit of all men.

There are two choices before us: we can beat our plowshares into swords and prepare for war, or we can beat our swords into plowshares and prepare for peace. Surely the members of this most powerful legislative body in the world, the United States Congress, who personally hold to our constitutional concepts of law and government, should do all within their strength to eliminate these dangers of militarism and warfare; they should seek to strengthen our spiritual powers and resources. This is the true strength of any nation.

Therefore, we appeal that you do not recommend an extension of peace-time conscription nor the adoption of any form of universal military training or service.

Conference Sunday, March 8: A Call To

Prayer, Praise, and Intercession



We praise God for the work of the Holy Spirit in every country, leading leading men to our common Father through the gospel of Jesus Christ. As the church teaches, seeks to transform, and baptizes, it is continually renewed and strengthened.

ONE HUNDRED years ago consecrated leaders within the Mennonite Church felt led by the Spirit of God to call into being a fellowship of congregations for a specific purpose. This union was to have a five-fold objective. Briefly stated, these objectives were:

TO ESTABLISH MORE FIRMLY and to deepen the basic Christian faith.

TO PERPETUATE AND MAKE FRUITFUL great principles of our Mennonite heritage.

TO PROVIDE A WORKING BASIS for co-operation in serving God's kingdom.

TO PROVIDE INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES for co-operation in the work of Christian missions, education, literature, relief, hospitals, deaconess work, mutual aid, and a service of peace and love.

TO PROMOTE "THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT in the bond of peace," looking toward a world fellowship of Mennonites, active and united in Christian service.

Having reached this important landmark in our history, it affords us a vantage point to gain a clear perspective of what God has wrought within this century of time. His Spirit has been active in and through human instruments to accomplish His purpose.

Laying aside all prejudice and every desire for personal honor, what better time than this to sin-

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cerely and honestly search our hearts that each one may answer the question before God and self: What contribution have I made and am I making today to attain these five objectives in Christian effort and service?

This is a call to our churches to make Sunday, March 8, a special day of prayer, praise, and intercession. On this day let us specially seek the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. In unity there is strength, and in the knowledge that 246 other churches are praying for the same things, are thanking God for blessings common to us all, and are interceding at the Throne of Grace for the same worthy causes for which we labor together. A fellowship such as this can do miracles.

Observing March 8 as a special day of prayer in all our churches, let us unite in the spirit of a true Christian Brotherhood.

Missions

Let Us Pray:

THAT THE VOLUNTARY SERVICE and short-term workers among the Indian Americans really confront young people with the claim of Christ on their lives.

THAT THE CHURCH MAY GO FORWARD in spite of political unrest and uncertain conditions in the Belgian Congo and other parts of Africa.

Let Us Praise God:

THAT HULDAH MYERS JOINS the group of missionaries in Cachipay, Colombia, after a brief term of language study in Costa Rica.

THAT EDILMA GUITTEREZ CAN BEGIN her course in nurse's training after having taught in the school at Cachipay, Colombia, for several years.

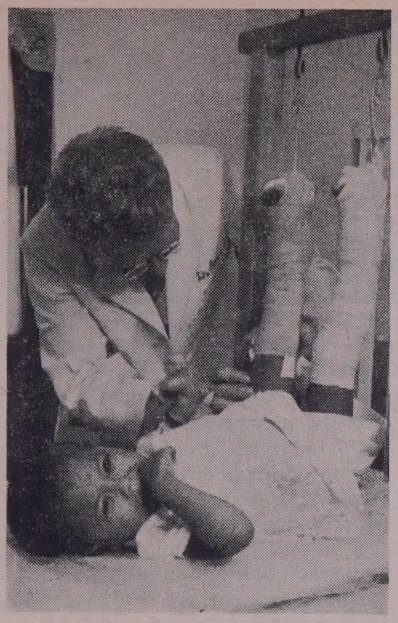
THAT YAMADA SAN IN JAPAN could be ordained as a Christian minister who will probably serve the church in Kobe.

THAT IN INDIA THE NATIONAL CHURCH will assume the financial obligation for the evangelistic work in our mission area after the end of 1959.

THAT THE WOODLAWN CHURCH IN CHICAGO has a vision for evangelistic outreach.

Let Us Intercede:

FOR PAUL BOSCHMAN IN JAPAN; Eldon Claassen, son of Curt Claassen in India; Paul Bergen, son of Menno Bergen in Mexico; and Alice Bachert, Barranquilla, Colombia, all of whom need physical healing to be able to resume their ordinary activities. God is able.



ABOVE: Part of our demonstration of love and witness to the gospel is the concern for man's physical welfare. Here Dr. Ronald Brown examines a Formosan child in a cast.

BELOW: Home for many refugees in crowded Hong Kong is a small boat or sampan. But even here the ministry of relief can reach undernourished, sick people with material aid.

Photo courtesy of CARE

Christian Service

Let Us Pray:

FOR THE NEW GROUP OF PAX BOYS who have arrived in Vietnam to begin service in the medical and relief program. Later they may assist in the construction of a new leprosarium.

THAT THE EMERGENCY SITUATION resulting from the terrible problem of chronic poverty and starvation may further be eased. The MCC hopes to recruit Mennonite young people of India to assist in the relief program.

THAT 4,000 ORPHANS CAN BE FED with 1,600 loaves of bread baked daily with surplus flour from the United States.

FOR THE GOOD RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL for clothing sent to Europe. Workers in the field inform us that they can use all the good and new clothes congregations will provide as well as all the meat which is being made available through the meat canning projects in our churches.

FOR THE NEW FEEDING CENTER for 200 Moslem children in Beirut and a second feeding center which is being developed.

FOR THE GREATLY IMPROVED CONDI-

Luoma Photos

The teaching program of the church involves supplying Sunday school and vacation Bible school materials for children of all ages. This is a tremendous task, but it is being achieved and has produced some fine materials.

TIONS in our hospital work in Cuauhtemoc, Mexico, and the more effective health program that can be carried out as the result of a better hospital service.

FOR THE TWELVE MISSION PAXMEN who have crossed two seas to be of service on our Mission fields of Formosa, India, Africa, and Japan, as well as the twenty-three General Conference Paxmen serving in different parts of the world under the direction of the MCC. Also we praise God for the eighteen young people in long-term Voluntary Service in the States, Mexico, and Canada.

Education and Publication

Let Us Pray:

FOR OUR BIBLE SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND SEMINARY that they may be used of God in the preparation of our youth for effective service in the many and varied fields which are open to young people.

THAT THE LORD MAY LAY HIS HAND on young men and call them into His service as ministers of the gospel. The present need for more ministers qualified and willing to give prayerful consideration to a call from churches whose pulpits are vacant is a great challenge to earnest and consecrated young men in our congregations.

THAT THE RECENT STUDY CONFERENCE on evangelism bear fruit so that a wholesome and fervent zeal for evangelistic outreach permeates our churches, that many be brought to the knowledge of salvation and be won to Christ and His service.

Let Us Praise God:

FOR THE PRINTED WORD, by which untold showers of blessings are poured out upon our homes to exert its quiet but powerful influence on children, youth, and adults in our Christian homes.

FOR OUR CHURCH PAPERS, edited and prepared with great care that we may be informed of the things God has wrought in the far outreaches of missions, relief, Voluntary Service, as well as through the spiritual ministry of pastors and other Christian workers in our congregations in the home land.

THAT THE TREMENDOUS WORK OF WRITING and publishing graded materials for our children in the Sunday schools is going forward so that it is already available for the first two age groups and more is soon to follow.

FOR THE OPEN DOORS AND UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITIES held out to our young people for consecrated service reaching around the world. At no other time in history have so many of our young people found it possible to serve in numerous countries in the name of Christ as an outreach of an arm of love of brotherhood and Christian fellowship.

A compositor readies type for printing a paper which will be read in Mennonite homes across the country.

Photo by Ken Hiebert

General

Let Us Pray:

FOR THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE in 1959. It is no small thing that God has granted us 100 years in which to labor in His vineyard till the work of proclaiming the Good News of salvation has encircled the world. From a small beginning the program of our Mennonite church has grown and expanded under the guidance and blessings of God into many areas of service. New doors of service and opportunities are ever opening if we are but ready to enter. The urgent and troubled times of our day beckon us on to work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work.

FOR THE CENTENNIAL YEAR, that it may be a time of penitent heart-searching to see where we as a church have failed and thus receive new visions of grounds yet to be claimed, so that the kingdom of this world can truly become the kingdom of the Lord and of His Christ.

Let Us Praise God:

THAT WE ARE STILL LIVING IN THE DAYS OF GRACE and that we can still serve God according to the freedom of our conscience, when in many lands this freedom has been lost.

FOR OUR FARFLUNG CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP of sister churches in the States, Canada, Mexico, South America, and in our mission lands.

Let Us Intercede:

FOR EACH OTHER that we may lay aside every selfish motive which hinders God to accomplish His great purpose in the individual, in the church, and in the world.

AT THE THRONE OF GRACE and seek that unity of the spirit which erases all boundaries of North and South, East and West, so that the prayer of Jesus may be answered: "that they may all be one."

FOR OURSELVES THAT "this mind be in us which was also in Christ Jesus," for only thus can we find the will of God for our lives.

THAT THE DAY SET ASIDE AS CONFERENCE SUNDAY be truly observed as a *day of prayer* by *all* our *churches*, so that the full potential of the day may be reached and may be used by the Spirit of God to the glory of His name and the salvation of the souls of man!

Islands of Hope in a Sea of Despair

*Delton Franz**

THE SOUTH has been referred to as a "sea of despair" in recent years. The evils of segregation have made the Southland a very dismal picture in the eyes of the world. Yet it must be recognized that there are islands of hope in this sea of despair.

SAVED not the same as SAFE

As we left Montgomery, Alabama, with its throbbing sensitivity to a new hope for the Negro people, we journeyed to another island of hope in a sea of despair in Georgia. Koinonia Farm has been a quiet and yet unusual testimony to the power of love in the face of hostility. Here families have been living together on a large farm, working and improving the soil as peace loving, law-abiding citizens. But they were more than peace loving and law-abiding. They were Christians! Not only in word and speech, but in truth and deed. Because they were committed to the Christian faith, their farm was not restricted to any race. As long as people came with the sincere intention of sharing in the work and in the Christian purposes of Koinonia, anyone was welcome.

With the racist tensions mounting following the Supreme Court decision to end segregated schooling Koinonia farm families became the target of the hatreds and violence of Macon County citizens. Their roadside markets were bombed and burned. Bullets penetrated their buildings and narrowly missed individuals. Being boycotted and bombed did not, however, destroy this Christian fellowship (koinonia). Our twentieth century churches could well take a lesson from this fellowship of Christians to whom the Christian way of life, carried out in practice by accepting all men as brothers in Christ, has meant suffering, danger and hardship. As Clarence Jordan, founder of the farm, stated, "Being 'saved' isn't necessarily the same as being 'safe.'"

What about law enforcement? Why haven't the lawbreakers been arrested? The sheriff himself encourages and participates in the violence! We often fail to realize that the evils of prejudice and sin do not stop with the common citizen. Those to whom law and order have been entrusted also become enslaved. And quoting from Romans 13 will not change the picture.

Communion Across Class and Race

The extremes in class and economic status are not limited to the white race. Upon arriving at Atlanta, Georgia, one was made aware of a different set of problems confronting the Negro people. Here, for many who have established themselves as middle-class and even upper-class citizens, the effects of complacency were very real. To Benjamin Mays, Negro president of Morehouse College, it seemed somewhat doubtful that the bus boycott of Montgomery, Ala., with all of the fervor and devotion of the church people behind it, could ever be repeated in Atlanta. If we believe in the equality of all men we recognize that all are subject to the same temptations as well as the same virtues.

We were made to wonder, after walking into a Negro church service in Atlanta and receiving a warm welcome to take part in the Communion service, whether these same Negro brethren would have received the same warm welcome should they have come unannounced to visit one of our Mennonite churches in Kansas or Pennsylvania. Christ's prayer at the Last Supper, "that they all might be one" (John 17), seems especially necessary for our observances of the Lord's Supper—a time when we as Mennonites have emphasized the importance of being "right" with our brothers. Our prejudices may also be a way of denying our Lord. Inasmuch as we have denied our Negro brother a place in our fellowship, we have also denied Christ that place. And so, as we leave the Communion service with our brethren in Atlanta, we ask, "Lord, is it I?" As we approach the Lenten Season, the time in which we remember especially Christ's example, when He washed the feet of the brethren, we recognize that we cannot escape this question.

Nonsense . . . It Means Death!

A final stop was made at the Highlander Folk School near Monteagle, Tennessee. At this place of retreat in the mountains of Tennessee, people of all races find a place where they can come together in conversation. We realized more and more how important such places are to people of the South . . . islands of hope in a sea of despair. This need becomes even more crucial when one recognizes that not even in the churches of the South do Christians find a place of refuge and fellowship, where together as light and dark skinned brothers they can accept each other as the brothers God made them.

Thus, in spite of the intimidations of white racists, including the state's governor, who attempted to indict the Folk School as a "Communist training center," brave leaders carry on a program whereby the illiterate and underprivileged Negro is given a chance to learn and to grow.

To this island of hope are invited speakers and leaders in the cause of brotherhood and human understanding, to give new inspiration and hope to those who gather here from their sea of despair.

*Pastor, Woodlawn Church, Chicago. This is the second article in a series, the first appearing in the January 6 issue.

One such recent speaker was Harry Golden, who has given a piercing and forthright interpretation of the racial problem.

"What do they mean when they talk about racial segregation? Do you think they mean a Negro child going or not going to a white school? Nonsense. Nonsense. . . . It means, my friends, death. D-E-A-T-H. That is what it means. Nine Negro women die in childbirth in the South to every one white woman who dies in childbirth. That is what segregation means. . . . It means death. These are the authentic figures: tuberculosis, which is eleventh as a cause of death among the whites, is second as a cause of death among the Negroes. That is what it means. Racial segregation! Do you know what an evil that is? It involves people who die when they shouldn't be dying. That is what segregation is. Don't let them kid you about the social classes. The Negro is not intruding when he moves into a better neighborhood. He is escaping; he is escaping from death."

The five men from the Woodlawn Church, Chicago, who made the trip south. From left to right: Pastor Delton Franz, Elmer Neufeld, Ed Riddick, Glen Boese, Pastor Vincent Harding.

III. ANGER'S ERROR

The Seven Deadly Sins

IN THE classic order of the seven deadly sins, anger comes third, after pride and envy. In ancient listings it is sometimes called wrath or ire. Modern preachers are inclined to bracket with it intolerance, and even impatience, thus making it represent a focus of resentments against others.

A capacity for anger is a characteristic mark of human nature everywhere. Testimony to this fact may be found in all the literature of the world, beginning with the Bible and continuing right down to the present day. Moses slew the Egyptian taskmaster in anger, and Peter in wrath cut off the soldier's ear. So commonplace is anger that many attempt to defend the "righteousness" of it. Yet the truth is that quite an indictment may be brought against it.

For one thing, anger is blind. It shuts its eyes to reason and understanding. The ordinary restraints which are the mark of civilization are cast off in anger. In wrath one person attempts to hurt another; he uses language of which he cannot be proud; all considerations of decency and respectability are thrown out the window. Anger is blind.

Like envy, anger is the foe of love. It sets up barriers, the crossing of which requires the most mature and informed love. It tends to provoke others to wrath. In the home it teaches children that the adult way to react to unpleasantness is to become angry.

Anger leads to exaggerated responses to situations which are unacceptable to it. Murder may result through wrath stirred by the most trifling offense. And, incredibly, even wars, involving the slaughter of thousands, have been sparked by anger.

Anger is the antithesis of tolerance. All who have been a part of the Christian tradition have some sort of appreciation for the place of respect for other persons. The rights of others, whether they be of minority or majority groups, must be honored. But anger is disrespect. It is evidence of a readiness to cast aside all consideration of the views of others.

Jesus' idea of the way a person should react to those situations which usually cause anger in us is that love and good will should dominate. Love your enemies. Overcome evil with good. Impossible? Not impossible but surely difficult. Angry people are warmakers, fearmakers, hatemakers, divisionmakers. But those who are able to meet provocative situations with love are peacemakers — and therefore "sons of God."

—Robert W. Hartzler, pastor of Eighth Street Church, Goshen, Ind.

From a summer in Chicago comes this story about

TOK

*by Birdie Preheim**

AS I GAZE out of the window of our third story apartment I see people walking down Woodlawn Avenue, children playing on the concrete, some boys arguing. I see people, people, and more people. My mind murmurs, "What are they doing on Woodlawn Avenue? What am I doing in the 'big wicked city'?. . . I with my co-workers in the tall narrow apartment building numbered 4606; the rest of the world, a world of dark strangers, is outside my door."

I'm still looking out of my window and all of a sudden I notice a thin little fellow trying to defend himself by swinging his fists at a larger bully. Soon a buddy comes by and the attacker, finding himself outnumbered, makes an escape. I wonder whether I'll ever again see that skinny little victim whose jacket was too small and whose shoes were too big. Will he be one of the children coming to Bible school? Somehow I yearn for the chance to help him feel the kindness of a friend and the love of God. . . .

Here I am again, dreaming as I stare out the third story window into the streets that seem almost like home by now, and I remember Tok, the little lad I saw fighting beneath my window almost six weeks ago. Today Tok is my friend. He was so hungry for the love and understanding of an adult that as soon as he could realize that I as a Bible school teacher had time to listen to him and to talk to him—as soon as he knew that I'd try to understand him—we became friends.

He soon told me his secret ambitions. He was going to join the gang and be the best stealer, fighter, and killer! He proudly told me of several fights he'd already experienced. I listened with sympathy to all his ambitions; I wondered why he felt he had to prove his strength in such a manner. Was it because he was so small for his age? That really isn't his fault. He probably never had the proper food to make a boy grow healthy and strong. Was it because he had no father nor mother? Tok has been cared for by a sweet old lady ever since he was several months old. She has been a mother to him; of course, that is not the same as real parents.

I ponder on the effects of the school. The 2,000 other children in school mean that Tok does not get very much attention. It probably seems to him that being rough and tough is the only way to be. Tok needs to be recognized. This is the way he plans to do it—by being the best stealer, fighter, and killer. Will he really carry out his dreams? No doubt he is well on his way toward these goals. Almost every child in the crowded block is pretty good at swiping candy from a counter, and they are pretty skillful in cheating.

What kind of a chance do these kids have? Now they struggle with each other. All is fair; every child has to work at gaining his hold. But when he gets out of his Negro community, how fair will it be? Maybe being the best stealer, fighter, and killer seems like success within reach.

My thoughts go on . . . Tok's goal

Photo by S. F. Pannabecker

*Graduate of Freeman Junior College, now studying home economics at South Dakota State. She spent last summer in VS in Chicago.

is to be the *best*. Why can't he be the best worker for Christ? With determination to be the best, he could do so much. He and all the other Toks could bring to God glory more enormous than the city. But how? Before we can see these boys become workers for Christ, they must first have workers for Christ witnessing to them. This depends upon all the churches, it depends upon Christian volunteers, it depends on us!

I gaze into the future and I see Tok. What is he doing? Is he the best killer? I wish I could see a clear picture, but I can't—the picture is blurred; it isn't finished. The finished picture depends on our movements. We will paint the final picture of Tok and many other Toks on Woodlawn Avenue.

Leadership Clinic

Dianne Waltner

HATS, hats, hats, everywhere you looked. As one entered the room at the first meeting of the Northern District Leadership Clinic, one was startled to see everyone down on the floor folding newspapers into cocked hats. Certainly this did not fit any stylized concept of a conference, i.e., lectures, lectures, and more lectures! And as the clinic progressed it became obvious that at no point was it going to lapse into a lecture session and the thirty young leaders who had come for training found themselves *actively* learning.

Where

The clinic, held at Henderson, Neb., on Jan. 30-31 was a venture of faith by the Northern District YPU. The idea of bringing the young people together in midyear—a difficult undertaking because of the distances involved—was conceived at Northern District Conference last June. The executive committee presented a recommendation that a Youth Rally be held midyear, and the idea was adopted by an enthusiastic majority. From this nucleus grew the plans for a two-day session which could include a leadership clinic.

After considerable pre-planning by the executive committee, the host fellowship, and clinic leaders, and after a few minor hitches such as the eastern delegation's missing a train in Chicago, the clinic was under way.

Who

The leadership clinic was composed of three sessions which took in various aspects of youth work. Leaders were Bill Block and Peter Kehler, seminary students with previous experience in this type of work, and the trainees were thirty young local leaders representing Mountain Lake, Minn.; Freeman, S. D.; Bloomfield, Mont.; and Henderson and Madrid, Neb.

How

The Friday evening meeting was devoted to exploring and evaluating the aims of the local YPU and the needs of our youth. To deal with these questions the leaders made use of group dynamic techniques, in this case, buzz groups to foster individual participation. Later the group evaluated the use of paper hats as a presocial activity or icebreaker activity. They also discussed the values and possibilities of buzz groups in local planning and programming. The evening was concluded with a worship service presented via slides and a tape recorder.

Evaluated Activity

When the group reconvened Saturday morning, the first item on the agenda was an evaluation of the worship experience of the previous evening. It pointed up effectively the value of audio-visual materials for programming. Various ways in which such materials might be used were discussed and evaluated. The major portion of the session was given to demonstration of the technique of role-playing. Each trainee became actively involved during this session and small groups enthusiastically presented spontaneous role-plays.

The final meeting of the clinic was given almost entirely to programming, with the group again subdividing and actually planning programs which they could share and use in their individual youth fellowships. It was also a place in which they could incorporate some of the numerous ideas by which they had been stimulated during previous meetings.

Climax

And as Peter Kehler closed the leadership clinic with a challenge to the group, all felt that they had been led to a new understanding of the problems of youth and leadership and had been stimulated toward a stronger witness for Christ through the YPF.

But the original intention of getting many Northern District youth together midyear was not forgotten. Beginning Saturday afternoon, a Youth Rally for all Northern District young people was held. The outstanding features of the rally were a fellowship hour, a banquet centered around the theme "Christ for the World," and

Northern District YPU Leadership Clinic: Left to right, program planning, role playing, informal discussion.

a public musical program in the evening. The host church did an outstanding job of planning both an enjoyable social and a beautiful banquet. The banquet was held in the local high school auditorium. The evening program featured a mass choir of young people attending the clinic and rally, and half a dozen special numbers representing various churches of the Northern District. John Gaeddert, host pastor, directed the mass choir, which furnished the major part of the program. Approximately 100 young people of the district attended the youth rally and banquet.

As the group again dispersed and traveled back to their own youth fellowships, they carried with them a renewed zeal for the work of their own group and a more united feeling with other young people of the Northern District Conference.

See it first with visual aids

Want a Memory?

Would you like to do something this summer that you will remember the rest of your life? Something that you will remember with warmth because of the service and witness you gave—remember with pleasure because of the friends you made—above all, remember with gratitude because of the spiritual benefits received?

Voluntary summer service can give you these memories if you will give yourself, a summer, and your dedication to helping those in need as your witness to God's love. There are opportunities throughout the United States and Canada to serve in many and varied ways: teaching Bible school to Hopi, Navajo, Cheyenne, and Arapaho children in several states; helping with church work in cities like Chicago or Kansas City, or in rural areas like mountainous Paint Rock, North Carolina, and the irrigated desert of Eloy, Arizona.

Summer service is not only witness and not only service: it is also learning. You can learn something about human nature, the ills of body and mind—most of all, of the power of love—as you serve people in need: mental patients, delinquents, invalids, perhaps in a unit in Saskatchewan. You can experience firsthand the problems that grow out of race prejudice at Gulfport, Mississippi, or Koinonia, Georgia. You can practice skills that you have already begun to develop at the same time that you serve others: nature study, supervision of recreation, cooking, sewing, handicrafts, farm work, maintenance, teaching, gardening, carpentry, and counseling.

More than anything else, however, summer service is learning that Christ's gospel is true for *you*, that God's love abides in us only as we love in deed and truth.

If you would like to see some of the areas of Voluntary Service in which General Conference Mennonite units will participate this summer, consider a summer service worship program for your youth group, and write for a set of VS slides. *Voluntary Service Projects*, a set of color slides with script, is available in the United States from the Audio Visual Library, Mennonite Publication Office, 720 Main, Newton, Kan. *The Challenge of Voluntary Service* is a set of color slides with script available in Canada from the Visual Aids Library, Mennonite Bookstore, Rosthern, Sask. Give several choices of dates.

In Quiet Kneeling

Hush! . . . the Night Voice is calling
From many stars;
Moving from sphere to sphere
It falls to earth
Upon a waiting ear . . . in quiet kneeling.

Wait! . . . we who would hurry on
Through time and space;
Far reaches of the heart are calling
For the voice which falls
Upon a waiting ear . . . in quiet kneeling.

Lord! . . . in all our rush to serve,
We ask for help;
For godly fear, that we might hear
Thy constant voice
Upon our waiting ears . . . in quiet kneeling.

Jesus Christ! . . . thou key to true eternity,
Lead us to thee!
Thou who did'st hear through cries and tears
The Triumphant Voice
Upon thy waiting ear . . . in stillness kneeling.

—Roy H. Vogt

The MENNONITE YOUTH section is sponsored by the Young People's Union of the General Conference. Editor, Muriel Thiessen, 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana.

our schools

SEMINARY LECTURES

Eugene A. Nida, Ph.D., Secretary of Translations of the American Bible Society, has been invited by the joint Administrative Committee of Associated Seminaries to give a series of lectures on March 5-6, 1959. Dr. Nida's topic will be "Communicating the Gospel." This series will inaugurate the annual joint lectureships being planned by the Associated Seminaries.

Dr. Nida is one of the foremost linguists in the United States, specializing in the study of languages and dialects of primitive peoples, for many of whom no printed part of the Bible has yet appeared. The work that Dr. Nida does includes field surveys, linguistic research, the checking of manuscripts of new translations, and the writing of books and articles on languages, anthropology, and the science of meaning.

In order to carry on these many phases of work in the Translation Department, Dr. Nida has traveled to more than sixty countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, where he has worked with translators on linguistic problems of more than thirty-five languages. In addition Dr. Nida is the author of several books, the most recent of which is *Customs and Cultures: Anthropology for Christian Missions,* published by Harpers in 1954.

Eugene A. Nida

SMUCKER TO SPEAK

Donovan E. Smucker, Director of Inner City Work in the Department of Church Extension of the Chicago Presbytery, will be the speaker of the annual Bethel College Bible Week, March 15-20, as announced by the office of the president.

Donovan E. Smucker

Brother Smucker has been associated with the Mennonite Biblical Seminary a number of years and is well known in Mennonite circles as a speaker at peace and youth rallies. A graduate of Bluffton College, he has since been granted the B. D. degree by Princeton Theological Seminary and the M. A. and Ph. D. degrees by the University of Chicago. Mrs. Smucker is the former Barbara Claassen of Newton. She is well known as a writer of juvenile fiction, being the author of *Henry's Red Sea* and *Cherokee Run.*

The Bethel College Bible Week is facilitated by the Hartzler Foundation, set up by Dr. J. E. and the late Mamie Yoder Hartzler.

FOLK FESTIVAL

A two-day folk festival featuring afternoon programs of home crafts and industries, an evening meal of traditional Mennonite dishes, and a stage program of dialect plays and skits will be held March 6-7 on the Bethel College campus.

New features of this year's festival are demonstrations of hog butchering and butter churning as it was done on the farm in grandpa's day. Displays of various churns and pioneer tools and utensils will remind this generation of life in the "good old days."

The evening program will feature college and community casts in Low German, Swiss German, and High German dramatic presentations. A committee is planning an evening meal which will include dishes popular with Mennonites of Russian, Swiss, and Prussian background.

BIBLE WEEK MESSAGES

The annual Bible Week at Canadian Mennonite Bible College, which is a time of concentrated Bible study and discussion was held recently. Erland Waltner, president of the seminary at Elkhart, was the main speaker. The first epistle of Peter was considered in six sessions. Our hope, our holiness, our house, our witness in a hostile society, our response to suffering, and our internal relationship were the main themes. In his concluding remarks Brother Waltner pointed out that the cross of Christ was throughout the entire epistle the background for Peter's message. Two evening services were devoted to devotional themes: "Come Unto Me" (Matt. 11:28-30), and "Ladder of Joy" (1 John 1:1-4). "Sharing God's Word with others is my greatest joy," said Dr. Waltner.

The second speaker was I. I. Friesen, who spoke about the gospel message, repentance, faith, the Holy Spirit, and the church, as these relate to evangelism. In his final message he drew attention to the findings of the Evangelism Conference held in Goshen. Bible Week is truly a highlight in our college year; it is a means of learning to love God's Word more and a source of spiritual growth.

Talents and opportunities go together in the work of God's Kingdom. Pastor Groening, who spoke to various individuals at Canadian Mennonite Bible College regarding mission work, drew attention to the fact that talents must be dedicated and opportunities taken. He reviewed mission opportunities for the students, impressing them with the number of open doors that the Conference has for willing workers.

STUDENTS ENTER TOURNEY

Nine Freeman students participated in the Inter-State Academy Debate Tournament at Edgerton, Minn., Feb. 13. Darla Albrecht, Virginia Ortman, Carol Preheim, and Loren Preheim entered the "A" division; Flora Schrag, Mavis Preheim, Judy Senner, Kenny Graber, and Terry Vogler, the "B" division.

SENIOR ENSEMBLE CONCERT

The Senior Ensemble, directed by Dorothy Imhoff, gave a short concert of sacred music at the Salem-Zion Church near Freeman on Sunday morning, Feb. 1. Members of

the group are Virginia Ortman, Charleen Waltner, Darla Albrecht, Carol Preheim, Marvis Preheim, Mary Ratzlaff, Jerral Becker, Ronnie Preheim, Loren Preheim, Doyle Preheim, and Delmar Wipf.

CONCERT

A Mid-Winter Music Concert will be presented at Founders Hall, Bluffton College, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 25, to which the public is invited. The Bluffton College band and orchestra, under the direction of Earl Lehman, and the Choraliers and Men's Octet, led by Mrs. Jack Purves, are combining their talents for this performance.

SCF RETREAT

The cabinet members of the Bluffton College Student Christian Association held their semester retreat at Mara-Alva House Feb. 8. An inspirational message was presented by Dr. Eldon Graber. In addition to making minor changes in the constitution, the members reviewed the objectives and goals adopted at the fall retreat. For devotions each member recited the Bible verse which was most meaningful to him, explaining why he chose that particular verse. Singing, discussion, and lunch concluded the retreat.

MCC news and notes

FROM MCC WORKER'S DIARY

INDIA—A team of four workers is laying the foundation for the development of an MCC sponsored relief and rehabilitation project among the refugees of Calcutta. More than 200,000 displaced persons live on the pavements around railway stations or in transit camps near the city, waiting to be rehabilitated. A page from Mrs. Helen Benedict's diary gives a glimpse of the need:

". . . Chinese Nationalist brought wife of Nationalist already deported by the Communists to Formosa to make application for loan from Church World Service. She has six children, six years and under, and is anxious to join her husband. (She got to Formosa but her husband was ill, taken to the hospital, and died before the children saw him).

"Hindu mother of seven seeks milk powder for family and husband suffering from ulcers and unable to work. It is a vicious circle —sick, no work, no money, no food for family, worry, ulcers, sick, etc.

"Anglo-Indian woman whose husband has an advanced case of T. B. came for medicine.

"Father of nine, out of work, came for some food promised earlier. (We paid his fare to another town where he secured employment and is now sending money home.)

"On to a coffee party in order to talk to some American wives about our work. Heard during conversation, 'We used to be able to save $500 a month but we can't any more because the income tax is so high.' What a contrast!"

CWS ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Church World Service was held in Atlantic City Feb. 5-6. Because MCC was invited to send representatives to the meeting, William T. Snyder and Robert Miller attended.

Their purpose in going was to become more fully acquainted with the program of CWS, particularly the material aid aspect. The Christian Rural Overseas Program of CWS parallels our Mennonite program, and our work touches in some areas such as the Middle East, Korea, and India. It is helpful, therefore, for MCC to keep abreast of what the larger agencies are doing.

One of the highlights of the CWS meeting was Willard Jones' presentation of the Arab refugee problem.

TRAINEE CONFERENCE

The annual Mennonite Trainee Conference was held Feb. 6-8 at the First Mennonite Church, Berne, Ind. Thirty-four young people from eight countries: France, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Japan are spending a year with Mennonite families and institutions currently. February marks half-time of their stay and is the occasion for a grand reshuffle. Each trainee spends six consecutive months at two different homes; an attempt is made to vary the geographic location and type of home as much as possible.

Pauline Jahnke, in charge of the Trainee Program, explains the purpose of the February get-together as follows: "I feel the conference gives the trainees a chance to share the experiences of their first half year in America. It is a time of thoughtful evaluation before embarking on their second assignment."

The three-day conference consisted largely of informal study and discussion sessions. Paul Bender, former MCC worker in Holland who has done research on Student-Trainee exchange, gave an interpretative talk on "Understanding Our Cultures," and led in the discussion following. Noah G. Good, former Pax pastor, presented a series of Bible studies. Four trainees spoke on "How Gain the Greatest Value from the Experiences Here" and "How Can My Experiences Here Be Helpful Upon My Return Home."

A sincere vote of thanks is extended to the Berne community and Gordon Neuenschwander, pastor of First Mennonite Church, for their hospitality and helpfulness.

RELIEF OFFICE REPORTS

Shipment to Paraguay: The first miscellaneous shipment of relief goods to Paraguay under the new shipping agreement went to port in Philadelphia, Jan. 28. The terms of the agreement are that $50,000 worth of relief goods will be allowed to enter Paraguay duty free annually. The U. S. government will pay ocean freight, the Paraguayan government for inland transportation.

Included in the shipment are thirty used sewing machines, 750 leprosy and 500 Christmas bundles, a hammer mill, generating plant, dentist's chair, projector and screen, tractor parts, and hospital supplies.

Another vehicle, a Chevrolet station wagon, has been purchased for Paraguay and will be sent to the Asuncion MCC Center in March. A Ford pickup was sent to the Chaco experimental farm in January.

Shipment to Jordan: A large, miscellaneous shipment is also going to Jordan. It consists of new and used clothing, bedding and school supplies. Relief Office has been notified by Washington that another 400,000 lbs. of flour are available for Jordan. Arrangements are being made to ship the flour in March.

Meat Shipments: Also going out this month are a number of meat shipments. Vietnam and Austria will receive 200 cases each, Korea 350 cases, and 473 cases will be shipped to Germany directly from Canada.

into the beyond

VERDI BIXEL was born April 29, 1899, and passed away Nov. 19, 1958. He was a member of Bethel Community Church, Santa Fe Springs, California.

WESLEY DELZELL was born November 2, 1873, and died December 21, 1958. He was a member of the Pulaski, Iowa, Mennonite Church.

LIZZIE SCHINDLER was born March 2, 1867, and died December 23, 1958, a member of the Pulaski, Iowa, Mennonite Church.

MRS. KATHE WARKENTIN (nee Willmsen), of Reedley, California, and member of the First Mennonite Church, Reedley, was born August 21, 1881, and died February 3, 1959.

LYNN A. RHOADS, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Rhoads of the Comins Mennonite Church, Comins, Michigan, was born January 23, 1959, and died the following day.

MRS. PERSIS AMSTUTZ, age 88, widow of P. A. Amstutz, Pandora, Ohio, died January 22, 1959. She was a charter member of the Grace Mennonite Church, Pandora.

jottings

PRAYER SERVICE

SPRINGFIELD CHURCH, PLEASANT VALLEY, PA.: Our adult C. E. held a Watch Night service Dec. 31. The film on the life of Jim Vaus was shown. The young folks went Christmas caroling to shut-ins and older folks. Our church has purchased and installed a new organ. A special service of dedication was planned for Feb. 1. The World Day of Prayer service was held Feb. 13, at which time a native of India, Karlapudy Devassahayam, professor of church history and New Testament at the United Lutheran Church Seminary in Rajahmundy, India, was the speaker.—Mrs. Ralph Koehler, corr.

HOGS-FOR-HAITI PROJECT

FIRST CHURCH, MOUNTAIN LAKE, MINN.: Mr. and Mrs. John D. Harder were honored with an open house on their sixtieth wedding anniversary Dec. 22. The Bethel and Gospel churches joined us at the New Year's Eve banquet and Watch Night service for young people. Vincent Harding from Chicago was the speaker. Universal Prayer Week was observed with three services Jan. 4-6. Jan. 18 the young people of First Presbyterian Church invited our young people to supper and a discussion by the pastors dealing with Presbyterian and Mennonite doctrines. A young married couples' fellowship has been organized and met Jan. 19. Catechism class began Jan. 4, with eighteen young people enrolled. The following children were dedicated Jan. 18: Garry Lee Johnson, Lois Elizabeth Wiebe, Carol Annette Harder, and Joy Aline Buller. The Book of Revelation is being studied at the adult Bible class on Wed. The men of our church have taken on a "Hogs for Haiti" project. A total number of twenty-four head will be trucked to Miami, and from there flown to Haiti. Marlin Pankratz, who has served one year at Haiti, told of the work there. He was married to Wilda Garberick at Elkhart, Ind., Feb. 7. They will return to Haiti for another year of service under MCC.—Mrs. Sam A. Quiring.

MCC WORKERS SPEAK

TOPEKA CHURCH, TOPEKA, IND.: Nov. 9 the Leonard Kingsleys of Berne showed slides and told of work on the island of Timor, Indonesia. The annual W.M.S. Thank Offering Service was held Nov. 16. Milo Yoder of Middlebury spoke and showed colored slides on a trip to Russia for the heifer project. A series of five filmstrips and Bible studies on the life of Christ were held. Melvin Gingerich of Goshen spoke and showed slides Nov. 30, telling of MCC work in the Far East. Dec. 7 a hymn festival was held here with the six area Conference churches. Marvin Dirks directed the combined choirs and the congregational singing. The Choralaires of Ligonier presented a Christmas concert Dec. 14. A Christmas program, "Come Sing About Christmas," and a White Gift service was held Christmas Eve. Mary Ellen Shoup, MCC worker in France for several terms, spoke and showed slides of her work at the Children's Home at Valdoie, France. Harvey Driver, Executive Secretary for the C.I.M., spoke at Missions Day services Jan. 25. Recent new arrivals were a son, Kevin Ray, to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Lambright Nov. 15; a daughter, Kim Rene, to Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Cunningham Nov. 24; a daughter, Kimberly Jean, to Mr. and Mrs. William Hochstetler Dec. 9.—Opal King, corr.

J. R. DUERKSEN INSTALLED

WILLOW CREEK CHURCH, PASO ROBLES, CALIF.: Thanksgiving we had morning services with a message by M. J. Galle and a carry-in supper in the evening. Louis John Claassen and Marjorie Scovell were married Sept. 26. A little girl, Linda Arnette, was born to Wesley and Ethella (King) Claassen Nov. 28. Holy Communion was observed Nov. 23. We had a nice morning Christmas service Dec. 25 and a S. S. program in the evening. The Young People's C. E. had a gathering in the church on New Year's Eve. New Year's services were well attended. Gerhard Dueck was elected deacon for a term of six years and Mrs. W. N. Claassen was re-elected trustee at the annual business meeting. Jan. 4 the church had a musical program and a short program of appreciation for the loving service of our supply pastor, M. J. Galle. We are happy that J. R. Duerksens, former missionaries to India, have come to live and work among us in answer to our call. He was installed Jan. 11 by M. J. Galle. The heads of the different departments of the church spoke words of welcome at a noon get-acquainted dinner. The Young People's C. E. had the first in a series of three programs on "The Tabernacle in the Wilderness" on Jan. 25. Glee Cooper, leader of Child Evangelism in San Luis Obispo Co., gave instructive talks on the subject. The adult C. E. had their business meeting Jan. 25.

WORK NIGHTS

BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH, SANTA FE SPRINGS, CALIF.: We were recently privileged to have with us some of our missionaries: the D. W. Van Nattons, Frank Mannings, and Marion Allens, all from Africa. Mrs. Allen was guest speaker at the Women's Missionary Fellowship Jan. 12. Our Christmas program, "The Message of the Bells," was presented by the S. S. and youth choir Dec. 21. After a fellowship dinner Jan. 11, we held our annual church meeting. Officers were installed Jan. 25. That evening we had a combined service sponsored by the Youth C. E. The men's quartet from the Calvary Baptist Church of Whittier presented the program. We have work nights on Tues. and every Sat. for the men, and are looking forward with anticipation to the dedication of our new church in March.—Edith Huser, corr.

PASTOR RESIGNS

PULASKI CHURCH, PULASKI, IOWA: Harold Ratzlaff spoke Nov. 3 on missions in India. A filmstrip on *Why We Have Thanksgiving* was shown Nov. 27 with a fellowship supper preceding. A food shower was given the pastor and family. Dec. 7 was church night with a supper and film, *Let's Keep Christmas*, adapted from a sermon by Peter Marshall. The Mary-Martha Circle prepared fruit boxes for the

sick and shut-ins for Christmas. We regret the loss of two members: Lizzie Schindler, Dec. 23, and Wesley Delzell, Dec. 21. The Christmas program was held Dec. 24. The Jr. Dept. of our S. S. decorated a mitten tree for MCC. The annual meeting of the church was held Dec. 29, during which time the pastor resigned. Jan. 11 a fellowship supper was held, followed by a musical program by the young people. A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Augspurger. We are looking forward to having the Evangeliers in our midst soon.—Elise Bachman.

RATZLAFFS SPEAK

FRIEDENSFELD CHURCH, TURPIN, OKLA:. New Year's Eve Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ediger and Pastor and Mrs. Levi Koehn sponsored a party and watch night service for the young people. The young people of the Church of God were also invited. We had our annual business meeting Jan. 1. Jan. 11 the young people had charge of the C. E. program. The Men's Fellowship met Jan. 12. Jan. 18 Pastor and Mrs. Harold Ratzlaff and Mary Ann were with us. Bro. Ratzlaff gave the morning message and Mrs. Ratzlaff gave a talk to the children. Installation service for those elected at the annual meeting was held in connection with the morning worship service. Missionary Ratzlaff also showed a film of the mission work in India the eve of Jan. 25. Harry Jantz, a Gideon representative, gave the morning message. World Day of Prayer on Feb. 13 was a joint meeting with the various churches at the Forgan Methodist Church.—Corr.

conference notes

(continued from the last page)

RELIEF FOR BOLIVIA

There is evidence of hardship and actual hunger in the two Mennonite settlements in Bolivia, South America. One colony settled there in 1954, the other in 1957, with eight families added in 1958. In the more recently settled colony, twenty-five families live in seventeen homes.

The people are anxiously awaiting opportunity to get land cleared so they can start producing. They will probably be self-supporting in a year or two. The Government Supervised Credit men are sympathetic to the Mennonites and will do all they can to help them with finances for land purchasing, machinery, and other basic needs, but at present these people need help.

The Board of Christian Service has sent $200 from its emergency relief budget to Bolivia for emergency food needs. Only as regular contributions are sent to the Board can there be a response to emergencies as they come to the attention of the church. Contributions for relief should be sent to Board of Christian Service, General Conference Mennonite Church, 722 Main Street, Newton, Kansas.

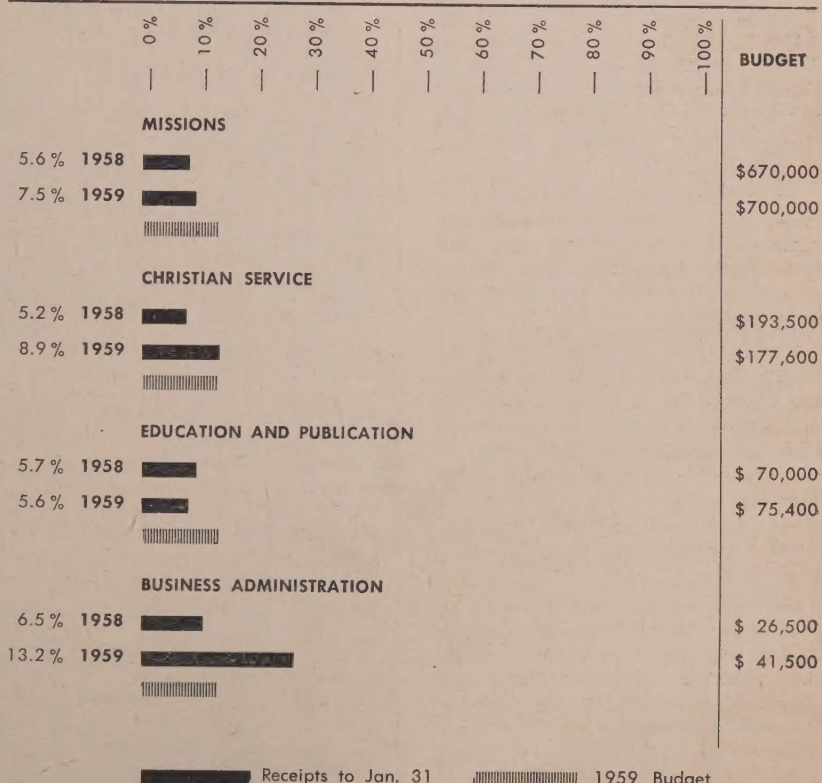
ATTENTION YOUNG MEN!

The 1-W and VS Committee of the Board of Christian Service makes the following recommendations to men wishing to serve their country and their Lord as conscientious objectors:

- Wait till age twenty before entering service.
- Complete all possible education before service because added preparedness will help you find better placement, and added maturity will help you contribute more meaningfully during your service.
- Seek counsel from your pastor or peace counselor before applying for service placement. This is to anticipate problems and help evaluate service opportunities.
- There is no objection to married men in 1-W service. Married couples have made exceptionally good contributions in the past. There are many service opportunities in Mennonite congregations at several 1-W locations.

conference stewardship

JANUARY 31, 1958, AS COMPARED TO JANUARY 31, 1959



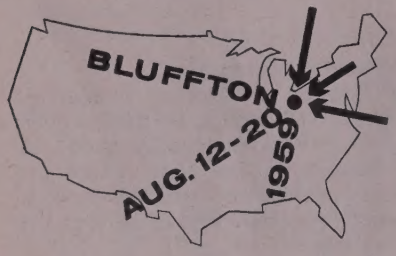
C 173

Ladnor Geissinger
Bluffton College
Bluffton Ohio

conference notes

LOOKING TOWARD GENERAL CONFERENCE

Some time ago I happened to come across the words, "not lilies, but principalities." The accompanying thoughts suggested that it is possible to become so engrossed in admiring the accomplishments of the church (observing lilies) that we forget to tangle with the issues of the day.



Surely we will want to rejoice in the things God has accomplished among us during the last three years—and we certainly have much to rejoice about! But maybe we are called not only to rejoice but also to engage in the struggle with "principalities and powers in high places." As we look forward to Bluffton our hope is that it may be a time when we buttress established endeavors, forge new frontiers, and sweep aside the lethargy that has dogged our steps.

May God use these sessions to enlarge our vision, equip us for the battle, and send us headlong to the very back yard of the satanic stronghold. Abe M. Wiebe

MDS MEETING

Area leaders of Mennonite Disaster Service met with the Co-ordinating Committee in Chicago Feb. 12-13 to discuss common concerns and ways of effective service. Some of the reports given were on radio communications and on civil defense. A mock operation was featured, demonstrating a practice disaster operation.

Mennonite Disaster Service is an inter-Mennonite community organization. Division into areas is made geographically, with a contact man in each congregation. In case of disaster, the leader of that area contacts men in the various churches and organizes a unit to assist in whatever way possible those stricken.

(*continued on page* 127)

ARE YOU PLANNING TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE?

If you are one of the thousand or more visitors and delegates who will attend the triennial conference and centennial observances of the General Conference Mennonite Church at Bluffton, Ohio, on August 12-20, you are requested to fill out the form below and mail it to: G. T. Soldner, Lodging Chairman, 438 West Elm Street, Bluffton, Ohio. This includes both those who are arranging for lodging with friends or relatives, and those who would like to make reservations for lodging. *All* who plan to attend at all, either part-time or full-time, should fill out and send in an application form. Additional forms may be secured from Brother Soldner at the address above.

APPLICATION FOR LODGING RESERVATION

Name..... Address.....

Congregation..... Dist. Conf.....

Traveling by: Car.... Train.... Bus....Plane.... Car & Trailer....

Date of Arrival..... Time of Arrival.....

If by train, plane, or bus, do you wish to be met at:

Lima: What railroad..... Findlay: What Railroad.....
Airport..... Airport.....
Bus Station.....

Number of accommodations requested:

Couples.... Children.... Young People.... Men.... Women....

Staying for entire session?..... or, what nights?.....

Have you made arrangements to stay with relatives or friends?.....

If so, with whom?.....

Address .....

Lodging will be provided in:

Mennonite and non-Mennonite homes in Bluffton-Pandora-Lima area
Bluffton College dormitories
Ohio Northern University dormitories (Ada, 12 miles)
Findlay College dormitories (Findlay, 18 miles)
Motels (5 to 15 miles); Lima hotels (if needed)

A lodging fee of $2.00 per person per night will be asked in non-Mennonite homes and in dormitories. Breakfast and linens will be included in dormitories. Transportation to Ada and Findlay will be provided for those who do not have their own.

Are you willing to accept lodging as the committee can best grant?

..... Have you a particular need?..... If so, what is it?

.....

Are you willing to share accommodations with others?.....

Reservations will be made on a "First Come, First Served" basis.

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE NOT LATER THAN JULY 1, 1959.

Address all communicationsto: G. T. Soldner, Lodging Chairman, 438 W. Elm Street, Bluffton, Ohio